

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A bactericide against *Streptococcus mutans* and *Streptococcus sobrinus* comprising ~~any one of the following proteins (1) [[to (3)]] or (2):~~

~~(1) a protein comprising shown by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a protein having the amino acid sequence derived therefrom in which a maximum 5% of total amino acids are deleted, substituted or added and having a lytic activity against *Streptococcus mutans* or *Streptococcus sobrinus*; or~~

~~(2) a protein having a 100±10 kDa band of lysed bacteria in a zymography containing killed *Streptococcus mutans*; and~~

~~(3) a protein comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the protein is obtained from cultured cells transformed by DNA comprising a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or DNA encoding said protein(1)SEQ ID NO: 1.~~

2. (Currently amended) A composition for treating or preventing preventive agent of tooth decay, ~~a therapeutic agent of tooth decay, a toothpaste, an oral cavity cleaner or a preventive gum of tooth decay, containing comprising~~ the bactericide of claim 1.

3. (Withdrawn – currently amended) A method for killing selectively *Streptococcus mutans* and *Streptococcus sobrinus* using ~~any one of the following proteins (1) [[to (3)]] or (2):~~

~~(1) a protein comprising shown by the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a protein having the amino acid sequence derived therefrom in which a maximum 5% of total amino acids are deleted, substituted or added and having a lytic activity against *Streptococcus mutans* or *Streptococcus sobrinus*; or~~

~~(2) a protein having a 100±10 kDa band of lysed bacteria in a zymography containing killed *Streptococcus mutans*; and~~

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(3) a protein comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein the protein is obtained from cultured cells transformed by DNA comprising ~~a nucleotide sequence of~~ SEQ ID NO: 2 or DNA encoding ~~said protein~~(1)SEQ ID NO: 1.

4. (New) The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is a toothpaste, an oral cavity cleaner, or a gum.